

Message Text

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ORIGIN PM-04

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 MC-02
EB-08 OMB-01 COME-00 TRSE-00 IGA-02 AID-05 MMO-01
SIG-01 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13
/129 R

DRAFTED BY PM:RAERICSON, JR:OC

APPROVED BY PM:LHGELB

P-MR. O'DONOHUE

T - MR. LEDOGAR

S/S SGOLDSMITH

-----260414Z 045824 /63

P 260256Z JAN 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS

SUBJECT:ARMS TRANSFER POLICY

1. WE ARE AWARE THAT PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT IN HIS
JANUARY 23 PRESS CONFERENCE MAY INSPIRE QUESTIONS ABROAD
ABOUT INTENTIONS OF THE ADMINISTRATION IN ARMS TRANSFER
FIELD. FOR YOUR INFORMATION, FOLLOWING IS DIRECT QUOTATION
OF WHAT PRESIDENT SAID WHEN ASKED WHETHER HE PLANS TO CALL
TEMPORARY OR PERMANENT HALT ON ARMS SALES ABROAD:

BEGIN QUOTE: I DON'T THINK A MORATORIUM WOULD BE THE
RIGHT EXPRESSION, BECAUSE THAT IS AN ABRUPT AND TOTAL
TERMINATION. . . I DON'T CONTEMPLATE THAT. BUT IN OUR
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FIRST NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING WE DISCUSSED, IN I
THINK UNANIMITY, THE NECESSITY FOR REDUCING ARMS SALES OR
HAVING VERY TIGHT RESTRAINTS ON FUTURE COMMITMENTS TO MINI-
MIZE THE EFFORTS BY ARMS MANUFACTURERS TO INITIATE SALES
EARLY IN THE PROCESS.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE WILL BE MUCH MORE HESITANT IN THE

FUTURE TO RECOMMEND TO THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT THE CULMINATION OF ARMS SALES AGREEMENTS. I HAVE ASKED THAT ALL APPROVALS OF ARMS SALES, FOR A CHANGE, BE SUBMITTED TO ME DIRECTLY BEFORE THE RECOMMENDATIONS GO TO CONGRESS.

WE ALSO HAVE ASKED VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE IN HIS EARLY TRIP AMONG OUR OWN ALLIES AND FRIENDS, SOME OF WHOM ARE HEAVY ARMS EXPORTERS, (TO ASK THEM) TO JOIN WITH US ON A MULTILATERAL BASIS.

WE WILL ALSO BE TALKING TO SOME OF THE PRIMARY ARMS PURCHASERS, PARTICULARLY THE MIDDLE EAST WHEN SECRETARY VANCE GOES THERE VERY SHORTLY, TO HOLD DOWN THEIR OWN PURCHASES OR ARMS FROM US AND OTHER COUNTRIES. THIS WILL BE A CONTINUING EFFORT ON MY PART. END QUOTE

2. IF QUERIED, EMBASSIES IN COUNTRIES WHICH ARE CURRENT OR POTENTIAL RECIPIENTS OF US EQUIPMENT MAY INFORM HOST GOVERNMENTS THAT, AS PRESIDENT CLEARLY INDICATED, IT IS NOT REPEAT NOT OUR INTENTION TO PLACE FREEZE ON ALL ARMS TRANSFERS. THE ADMINISTRATION DOES, HOWEVER, INTEND CAREFULLY TO EXAMINE CURRENT AND FUTURE ARMS TRANSFER PROPOSALS, WHETHER FUNDED BY THE USG OR THE RECIPIENT, TO ENSURE THEY SERVE US NATIONAL INTERESTS. THESE PENDING CASES WILL BE REVIEWED IN A DELIBERATE MANNER. AT THE SAME TIME PRESIDENT HAS INDICATED HE INTENDS TO UNDERTAKE AN EFFORT TO BRING A GREATER DEGREE OF COHERENCE AND CONTROL TO OUR ARMS SALES THAN HAS BEEN THE CASE IN THE PAST, AND TO THIS END HAS ORDERED A REVIEW OF POLICY IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THIS FIELD. IN THE MEANTIME, EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO MEET LEGITIMATE NEEDS WITHOUT UNDUE DELAY OR INCONVENIENCE.

VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Line Count: 101
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
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SAS ID: 3494620
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: ARMS TRANSFER POLICY
TAGS: MASS, US, XX
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